

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T MAPUTO 0838

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR AF DICK MOOSE FROM LOW

E.O.11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: GRAHAM-LOW INTERMEDIARIES ROLE

REF: A) STATE 169144, B) PRETORIA 3757

1. YOUR HUNCH THAT SMITH MIGHT NOT OPEN UP ENOUGH TO JOHNNY AND ME TO DO MUCH GOOD AS INTERMEDIARIES BETWEEN HIM AND NKOMO WAS CORRECT AS YOU WILL HAVE SEEN FROM REF PRETORIA TEL. WHEN WE SOUNDED GAYLORD OUT ABOUT THE GENERAL IDEA OF INTERMEDIARIES HE REJECTED THE IDEA FAIRLY QUICKLY THOUGH I ASKED HIM TO KEEP THINKING ABOUT IT- AND HE WAS LESS FIRM IN HIS REJECTION OF HIMSELF IN THAT ROLE. GAYLORD SAYS SMITH WILL NOT SHARE WITH ANYONE WHAT HE IS WILLING TO TALK TO NKOMO ABOUT PROBABLY BECAUSE HE WANTS TO HEAR FIRST FROM NKOMO WHETHER MUGABE HAS TO BE INCLUDED.

2. I DO NOT THINK ANYONE WANTS AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH WOULD LEAVE MUZOREWA OUT IN THE COLD. SMITH WOULD NOT DO IT AND NKOMO RECONGNIZES HIS VALUE AS SUPPORT. THEY WILL WANT TO OFFER HIM SOMETHING-- THOUGH NOT THE POSITION OF POWER. IT IS MUGABE THEY ARE AIMING AT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00838 051835Z

SMITH WANTS TO EXCLDE HIM ALTOGETHER. I PERSONALLY BELIEVE NKOMO WOULD RATHER HAVE HIM IN, BUT CONTROLLED. IF MUGABE DOESN'T ACCEPT THAT, THEN NKOMO MIGHT BE WILLING TO DROP HIM. MY EFFORT HAS BEEN TO WARN SMITH. GAYLORD AND THE SOUTH AFRICAIS THAT A SOLUTION WITH OUT SUBSTANTIAL ZANLA PARTICIPATION WON'T END THE WAR. THE HAMADZIRIPI BREAK

TODAY IS IMPORTANT. I JUST HOPE SMITH LETS NKOMO
WORK THIS OUR RATHER THAN LAYING DOWN
ULTIMATUM HIMSELF. I TRY TO TELL SMITH AND COMPANY
THAT MUGABE IN AND CONTROLLED IS BETTER THAN MUGABE
OUT AND IN CHINESE SUPPORTED POLE OF OPPOSITION
FLOWER AND ROBINSON SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THIS BUT
THE OTHERS DON'T. I WILL KEEP DISCUSSING THIS WITH
THEM.

3. I THINK TOM CURTIS REMARKS THAT THE BISHOP
COULD BE PERSUADED TO PULL OUT OF THE SALISBURY
AGREEMENT IS WISHFUL THINKING NOR WOULD THAT BE
HELPFUL AT THIS POINT, WHERE WOULD HE GO? THAT HE
MIGHT BE PERSUADED TO AGREE TO AN ALL PARTIES TALK IS
SOMETHING ELSE. WHEN WE GET NEARER THE DATE (WE ARE
THINKING OF JULY 29/30), I THINK WE MIGHT CONSIDER
WHETHER TOM MIGHT NOT BE HELPFUL IN RHODESIA
AGAIN.

4. I HAVE NOT YET HAD A CHANCE TO DISCUSS WITH
JOHNNY BUT AM VERY HESITANT TO BRING UP AN NKOMO SMITH
MEETING WITH MACHEL AND NYERERE. I THINK THIS ATTEMPT
AT A MEETING WILL PROBABLY NOT WORK BUT THEY ARE
LOKELY TO TRY AGAIN WITHOUT OUR KNOWLEDGE AND WE WOULD NOT WANT
TO PREJUDICE THAT ATTEMPT. IF WE RAISE IT WITH THEM, MACHEL AND
NYERERE WILL THINK WE WERE INVOLVED. WE CAN'T HELP SUCH A MEETING
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00838 051835Z

BUT COULD DO IT A FAIR AMOUNT OF HARM. BELIEVE MACHEL KNOWS
MUCH MORE THAN WE THINK AND THE HAMEDZIRIPI "ESCAPE"
MAY BE RELATED TO JOSHUA'S EMERGING AS THE
CENTRAL FIFURE WITHOUT OUR HELP OR INVOLVEMENT.
IF SO, JOSHUA CAN PLAY MACHEL BETTER THAN WE.
DE PREE

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